DEPUTY

MARIE L. JOHNSON, an associate of 1 | ASK LAW GROUP, 13949 VENTURA BOULEVARD, SUITE 300 2 SHERMAN OAKS, CA 91432 Tel: (818) 788-1914 3 California Bar No. 246374 4 Attorneys for the Plaintiff 6 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 7 FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA **°08 CV 01**30 JM LSP 8 MARINA GREEN 9 10 COMPLAINT FOR A WRIT Plaintiff, IN THE NATURE OF MANDAMUS TO 11 COMPEL ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION vs. 12 PETER D. KEISLER, Acting Attorney 13 General, Department of Justice; MICHAEL CHERTOFF, Secretary of the) 14 Department of Homeland Security; ROBERT MEULLER, III, Director of 15 The United States Federal Bureau of) Investigation; United States 16 Citizenship and Immigration Services, Chula Vista Sub Office; 17 and the UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES 18

The Plaintiff alleges:

I. **PARTIES**

Α. Plaintiff

Defendants,

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1. Plaintiff, Marina Green, is a resident within the jurisdiction of the Chula Vista Sub Office of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service ('USCIS').

In 2005, Plaintiff was petitioned by her U.S. citizen husband who filed a Petition for Alien Relative (Form I-130) on her behalf. Concurrently, Plaintiff filed an Application to Adjust to Permanent Resident Status (Form I-485). Ms. Marina Green's Alien number is 096-588-594. On April 20, 2006, the Plaintiff appeared before an interviewing officer of the Chula Vista Sub Office of the USCIS for an examination of said Petition for Alien Relative and Application for Adjustment of Status. The officer did not make a final decision, and continued the interview for further review. On December 8, 2006, the Plaintiff appeared before an interviewing officer of the Chula Vista Sub Office of the USCIS for her second interview in regards to her pending petition and application. The officer did not make a final decision and continued the interview for further review. The Plaintiff has made numerous inquiries, requesting adjudication of the petition and application. It has been over two years since said petition and application were filed and to date they remain unadjudicated. Jurisdiction to adjudicate the petition and application lies with the Chula Vista Sub Office

B. Defendants

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3. Defendant PETER D. KEISLER, is the Acting Attorney General of the United States, and head of the United States Department of Justice.

of the USCIS and remains pending without resolution.

- 4. Defendant MICHAEL CHERTOFF, is Secretary of the United States Department of Homeland Security.
 - 5. Defendant, ROBERT MEULLER, III, is the Director of the

United States Federal Bureau of Investigation.

- 6. Defendant CHULA VISTA SUB OFFICE of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services. The principal address of the Chula Vista Sub Office is $1261\ 3^{rd}$ Avenue, Suite A, Chula Vista, CA 91911.
- 7. Defendant UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES, is the federal agency within the United States Department of Homeland Security which is required under the law to supervise, implement and enforce the Immigration and Nationality Act, hereinafter "INA", codified in 8 U.S.C. § 1103 et seq.

II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 8. This is an action for mandamus in accordance with the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 1361 and § 2201. It is brought for the purpose of determining a question of actual controversy between the parties as more fully explained in the remainder of this complaint.
- 9. Jurisdiction of this court is invoked pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331(a), this being an action which arises under the Constitution and laws of the United States, specifically under the provisions of the INA, 8 U.S.C. § 1151, et seq.; and pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1361, this being an action in the nature of mandamus to compel officers and employees of an agency of the United States to perform duties owed to Plaintiff. Plaintiff alleges eligibility for payment of reasonable attorney's fees under the terms of the Equal Access to Justice Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2412.
 - 10. Venue properly lies in this Court pursuant to the

provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 1391(e).

III. CLAIMS FOR RELIEF

A. MANDAMUS

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- 11. Plaintiff has filed a petition and an application, as previously described hereinabove, with Defendants. Defendants have accepted the petition and application, along with corresponding filing fees. Plaintiff has also submitted all the necessary documents in support of said petition and application. However, through purposeful acts, negligence, poor management and inattention, Defendants have failed to complete the ministerial actions that would result in allowing them to adjudicate Plaintiff's Petition and Application.
- 12. Numerous inquiries have been conducted requesting information regarding the current status of said petition as well as for the adjudication of said application. These inquiries were submitted in accordance with the procedures established by Defendants for such purposes.
- 13. Defendants have not taken action to complete the adjudications despite inquiries and requests.
- 14. Defendants have adjudicated similar petitions and applications filed by persons who are not parties to this action and which were filed subsequent to the application filed by Plaintiffs.
- 15. Defendants do not employ any reasonable system to safeguard that: (1) files are centrally monitored to guarantee that they are being closed out on a rational, efficient and

nonpreferential basis; or (2) applicants are provided with information on the status of files that have not been adjudicated on a timely basis.

- 16. Plaintiff has been denied due process of law under the terms of the Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution by Defendants' neglect and refusal to take action to adjudicate the pending petition and application.
- 17. Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer irreparable harm as a result of Defendants' delay. This harm includes: an unreasonable delay in allowing Ms. Marina Green to establish eligibility for United States citizenship as well as the many benefits, rights, and privileges of United States citizenship; inability to receive promotions or otherwise advance in her career; inability to obtain home or education loans; and generally, continuing mental distress resulting from her unsettled legal condition.
- 18. There is no reasonable basis for Defendants' position and it is not substantially justified under the law.
- 19. Defendants have in their possession all information necessary to complete the adjudication of said petition and application. Defendants' refusal to complete this administrative processing is a disregard of their official duty and Plaintiff is wholly without remedy, under the circumstances, unless mandamus is ordered by this Court.

B. VIOLATION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT

20. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference the

allegations set out in paragraphs 1 through 19, inclusive, of this Complaint as though fully set forth herein.

- The Administrative Procedure Act (APA) provides categorically that every agency "shall within a reasonable time...proceed to conclude any matter presented to it." 5 U.S.C. § In recognition that a failure or unwarranted refusal to 555(b). adjudicate should be enjoined, Congress provided in 5 U.S.C. § 706 et. seq. that courts may review the inaction of an agency and specifically "compel agency action unlawfully withheld unreasonably delayed." Likewise, the court may "set aside agency action...found to be...arbitrary, capricious, and abuse discretion (or) contrary to constitutional right, power, privilege or immunity." 5 U.S.C. § 706 et. seq.
- 22. Courts may find unwarranted agency inaction tantamount to denial of an application pending before an agency. 5 U.S.C. § 555(e).
- 23. Defendants' conduct in processing Plaintiff's petition and application as described in the aforementioned allegations, is capricious and arbitrary and results in severe and unwarranted delay to Plaintiff in conferring valuable immigration benefits. The delay so incurred is tantamount to a violation of the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. § 555(b) and (e), § 702 and 706 et. seq. Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer severe irreparable injury for which there is no adequate remedy at law.

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IV. PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays:

- 1. That judgment be entered ordering Defendants to forthwith adjudicate the Petition for Alien Relative, Form I-130, and Application for Adjustment of Status to Permanent Resident, Form I-485;
- 2. That Defendants be permanently enjoined from refusing to communicate with attorneys for Plaintiff regarding the status of the case;
- 3. That Defendants be ordered to pay the cost of suit herein;
- 4. That Defendants be ordered to pay Plaintiff's reasonable attorney's fee for this action;
- 5. That the Court grant such other and further relief as it may deem to be necessary and proper.

Dated: November 6, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

ASK LAW GROUP,

MARIE L. JOHNSON

Attorneys for the Plaintiff

Document 1

Filed 01/23/2008

SJS 44 (Rev. 11/04)

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

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13949 Ventura Blvd., Suit	e 300, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423 818-78	m c	ITIZENSHIP OF PE	RINCIPAL PARTIES	Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff
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IV. NATURE OF SUIT	(Place an "X" in One Box Only)		PARTITION OF THE PARTY AND THE	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
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110 Insurance	PERSONAL INJURY PERSONAL INJUI		610 Agriculture 620 Other Food & Drug	423 Withdrawal	☐ 410 Antitrust
120 Marine	☐ 310 Airplane ☐ 362 Personal Injury ☐ 315 Airplane Product		625 Drug Related Seizure	28 USC 157	430 Banks and Banking 450 Commerce
☐ 130 Miller Act ☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument	Liability 365 Personal Injury		of Property 21 USC 881	PROPERTY RIGHTS	460 Deportation
☐ 150 Recovery of Overpayment	320 Assault, Libel & Product Liability Slander 368 Asbestos Person		630 Liquor Laws 640 R.R. & Truck	☐ 820 Copyrights	☐ 470 Racketeer Influenced and
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☐ 160 Stockholders' Suits	☐ 355 Motor Vehicle Property Damage Product Liability ☐ 385 Property Dama		720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations	☐ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))	12 USC 3410
☐ 190 Other Contract ☐ 195 Contract Product Liability	Product Liability 385 Property Dama 360 Other Personal Product Liability	° 1-	730 Labor/Mgmt.Reporting	☐ 864 SSID Tide XVI	890 Other Statutory Actions 891 Agricultural Acts
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REAL PROPERTY	CIVIL RIGHTS PRISONER PETITION 441 Voting 510 Motions to Vac			370 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff	893 Environmental Matters
210 Land Condemnation220 Foreclosure	441 Voting 442 Employment Sentence	0	791 Empl. Ret. Inc.	or Defendant) 7 871 IRS—Third Party	894 Energy Allocation Act 895 Freedom of Information
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VI. CAUSE OF ACT	ION Brief description of cause:				
VI. CROSE OF ACT	Brief description of cause: Action seeking mandamus to com	ipel adr	ninistrative action.		
VII DECHECTED I			DEMAND \$		y if demanded in complaint:
VII. REQUESTED IN	UNDER F.R.C.P. 23			JURY DEMANI	D: Yes No
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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA SAN DIEGO DIVISION

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USAO #.: 08CV0130 PRLA Judge..: JEFFREY T MILLER

Amount.:

\$350.00 CK

Check#.: BC2006143

Total-> \$350.00

FROM: GREEN V. KEISLER CIVIL FILING